XII. *Propoſals for the Improvement of the Hiſtory of* Ruſſia, *by publiſhing, from time to time, ſeparate Pieces to ſerve for a Collection of all ſorts of* Memoirs *relating to the Tranſactions and State of that Nation: Printed at St.* Peterſburg, *for the* Imperial Academy *of* Sciences. *By* Ger. Fred. Muller, *Prof. Hiſt. Petropol. and F. R. S. Tranſlated from the* German *by Mr.* Zolman.

THE Hiſtory of the Empire of *Ruſſia* and its Provinces and Territories incorporate, has, 'till now, laboured under ſuch Difficulties, that it almoſt ſeems impoſſible to produce any Syſtem of it under twenty or more Years to come. For this Reaſon the *Academy of Sciences* have lately taken a Reſolution, for the Benefit of Lovers of Hiſtory, to begin a Collection of all ſorts of ſhort Treatiſes, and authentick Documents relating to the Hiſtory of that Empire, and to publiſh it, from time to time, in ſeparate Pieces, both in the *Ruſſian* and the *German* Languages. Their Intention in general is the ſame with what is aimed at in other Countries, by publiſhing Collections of Pieces of Hiſtory and Records, *viz.* on one Side to gather Materials for a future compleat Hiſtory, and on the other, to animate ſuch Perſons as have already made Collections with this View, to contribute their Part towards the publick Advantage. But their particular View in this Work is to bring to light, from time to time, all that has hitherto remain-

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ed unknown to Foreign Nations about the *Ruſſian* Hiſtory, or has not yet been ſufficiently enquired into, nor cleared up in printed Hiſtories. For this Reaſon we ſhall take the Hiſtory of the *Ruſſian* Empire in its largeſt Extent, ſo as to comprehend not only the Hiſtory both Civil and Eccleſiaſtical, Learned, and Natural, but alſo the Antiquities, Medals, Chronology, Geography, *&c.* of that Empire, not only with reſpect to the *Ruſſian* Nation, particularly and properly ſo called, but alſo with regard to all the other Kingdoms and Provinces ſubject to the *Ruſſian* Sceptre, nay, even to the neighbouring Parts of South *Tartary*. The Firſt Part, which will ſpeedily be publiſhed, ſhall ſerve for a Specimen, how far theſe Endeavours will meet with the Approbation of ſkillful Readers. In caſe this is well received, we will go on with others every Month, or thereabouts, ſo as to make up at the End of the Year a ſizeable Volume in *Octavo*, the 12th Part of which ſhall conclude with a complete Table for the whole Volume. Theſe are therefore to deſire ſuch Perſons as are provided with proper Materials for our Deſign, and are enclined to communicate them to the World, in their own Names, or without mention of them if they had rather, to ſend them either in the *Ruſſian*, or any other Language, into the Secretary's Office of the *Academy of Sciences*, in order to which, the following Specification will ſhew in what manner the different Materials may be ranged and publiſhed.

St. Peterſburg,
Sept. 9, 1732.

Specification

Specification of the Materials, *which are to ſerve for the intended* Collection.

I.

Extracts and Tranſlations of all the Hiſtorical Manuſcripts and Chronicles of *Ruſſia*, as are either already extant, or may hereafter be diſcovered.

As for Inſtance, out of the *Stepennaia Kniga*, the *Chronicon*, or *Synopſis Kiovienſis*, the Chronicle of the Abbot *Theodoſius* of *Kiow*, the Chronicle of *Barlaam Palizin*, ſome anonymous Chronicles, *&c.*

II.

Hiſtories of the Lives of the moſt celebrated Sovereigns of *Ruſſia*, of either Sex, carefully gathered from proper Accounts, Printed, as well as Manuſcripts.

For Inſtance, the Lives of *Ruric*, *Igor*, *Olga*, *Wladimir* the Great, *Wladimir Monomachus*, *Alexander* of *Neva*, and all the other Czars, Emperors, and Empreſſes, from *Iwan Baſilowitz* the Firſt, to the preſent Time.

III.

Genealogical Accounts and Tables, both ancient and modern, of the Family of the Great Dukes, Czars, and Emperors of *Ruſſia*.

For this I have prepared and drawn up twelve Tables, repreſenting, moſt diſtinctly, the Succeſſion of the ſeveral Great Dukes, Czars, and Em-

Emperors, from the Great Duke *Ruric*, down to the preſent Empreſs, with their ſeveral collateral Branches, as far as there is any Notice to be had of them; Princes who had only Allowances from the Crown; Princeſſes married, or unmarried; as alſo, the intruded Sovereigns, who filled the Throne during the Troubles of ſeveral Interregnums.

IV.

A Geographical, Chorographical, and Topographical Deſcription of all the Countries, Territories, and Towns ſubject to the Sceptre of *Ruſſia*.

For Inſtance, A compleat Geography of *Livonia*, *Eſthonia*, *Ingria*, and *Carelia*, and afterwards alſo of other Governments and Territories, taking, at the ſame time, notice, in a few Words, of the Hiſtory of each City, or Town. Alſo, Deſcriptions of particular Cities, and what is remarkable in them, as *Moſcow*, St. *Peterſburg*, &c.

V

An Explanation of all the *Ruſſian* Coins and Medals both ancient and modern.

Under this Head ſuccinct Accounts may be given of the diverſe Tranſactions which occaſioned the coining of them; particularly, the Hiſtory of the Arms of *Ruſſia*, deduced from their Coins and Medals.

VI.

A Deſcription of all kinds of *Ruſſian* Antiquities, Natural Curioſities, *&c.*

For the firſt, the Imperial Cabinet here will furniſh a ſufficient Store; as for Inſtance, Idols of Gold, Copper, and Iron, Ornaments for Dreſs, Veſſels, and other Antiquities, which were from time to time found in *Siberia*. On the other Head, an Account of the Mineral Waters at *Olonitz*; the flying Squirrel, the Asbeſtus, the Mammot, and other natural Curioſities peculiar to *Ruſſia* and *Siberia*, not to be met with in other Countries.

VII.

All that relates to the Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory, or can contribute to the illuſtrating of it.

For inſtance, of the Idolatry of the ancient Inhabitants of *Ruſſia*; of their Converſion to the Chriſtian Religion; of the Endeavours uſed by the Church of *Rome* for uniting with the *Grecian*, and particularly that of *Ruſſia*; of the Succeſſion of the *Ruſſian* Metropolitans and Patriarchs; of Archiepiſcopal and Epiſcopal Sees, of Convents, *&c.*

VIII.

Diverſe Tranſactions relating to the Hiſtory of Learning in *Ruſſia*.

Such are, A Hiſtory of the Schools and Academies of *Ruſſia*; of the Uſe of Characters, and the Introduction of the Art of Writing; of the Riſe

Riſe and Progreſs of Printing in *Ruſſia*; a Liſt of all the Books printed in *Ruſſia* to this time.

IX.

Diverſe Particulars and Miſcellaneous Subjects gathered out of various Parts of their Hiſtory.

For Example; The Conqueſts of the Country of *Siberia*, and Kingdoms of *Caſan* and *Aſtracan*; of the Manners and Cuſtoms of the different Nations of *Siberia*; of their ſeveral Languages; of the planting of *America* from *Siberia*; the Hiſtory of the Commerce of *Ruſſia*; of the Tribute anciently paid to *Ruſſia* by the *Livonians*; the Hiſtory and Deſcription of the Globe of *Gottorp*; the Hiſtory of the Navigation by the North-Eaſt Paſſage; particular Advices concerning the Country of *Kamtſchatka*, &c.

X.

Extracts of Books and Papers publiſhed here by the Academy of Sciences, as far as they chiefly relate and contribute to the ancient and modern Hiſtory of *Ruſſia*, Civil or Eccleſiaſtical, or of Literature and Nature.

Under this Article will be ranged, among others, ſome Treatiſes of Profeſſor *Bayer*, relating to the ancient Hiſtory and Geography of *Ruſſia*; as likewiſe, Dr. *Duvernoy*'s Anatomical Accounts which relate to Natural Hiſtory, with his Deſcription of ſome Monſters produced in *Ruſſia*.

XI.

Diſcoveries of Errors committed by Foreign Authors in the Hiſtory and Geography of *Ruſſia*.

Under this Head the moſt modern Authors will be chiefly taken notice of, as they are moſt likely to produce new Miſtakes. Accordingly two Treatiſes lie ready on this Subject, the one containing Obſervations on M. *Strahlenberg*'s Northern and Eaſtern Part of *Europe* and *Aſia*, as alſo on his Map; the other on the *Origines Ruſſicæ* of M. *Schöttgen*, Rector of the School at *Dreſden*.

XII.

Diverſe Hiſtorical and Geographical Accounts of the neighbouring *Tartarian* Kingdoms and Countries, with which *Ruſſia* has a conſtant Intercourſe, but are otherwiſe little known.

Such are the *Coſacks*, the *Tartars* of *Crim*, *Dageſtan*, *Nagaya*, *Chiwa*, *Bucharia*, *Calmucks*, *Mongals*, and others; of the Hiſtory of their Government; of the Deſcription of their ſeveral Countries, as to their Situation, Manners, Cuſtoms, Commerce, Religion, Language, Learning, Arts and Sciences, *&c.*

The Collector and Publiſher is to be *Gerhard Frederick Müller*, Member of the Imperial *Academy of Sciences* of *Ruſſia*, and of the *Royal Society* of *England*, as alſo Profeſſor in Ordinary of Hiſtory: But in his Abſence, this Work is carried on by his Collegue in the Profeſſorſhip of Hiſtory, *Adolphus Bernardus Cramer*.

XIII. *An*